

California State Journal of Medicine.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE!

All Scientific Papers submitted for Publication must be typewritten.

Notify the office promptly of any change of address, in order that mailing list and addresses in the Register may be corrected.

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COUNTY SOCIETY SECRETARIES:

Many of you have not yet sent to the Secretary's office the list of delegates to the annual meeting. Unless you attend to this within the next week, the space allotted to your County Society will be vacant on the Official Program. To notify the office of the Secretary of the State Society who will be the delegates from your County is part of your job. Besides the Secretary, there are the members of the Committee who have the Program in charge, the Editor, and the printer. All these want your list of delegates. If you have not already done so, please send it now.

IS IT WORTH WHILE?

Authentic figures place the total registration of those entitled to practice the healing art in all its forms in California, at approximately seven thousand. These licentiates are distributed in the following groups, the figures being approximate, but substantially correct:

Regular	(about) 4,658
Homeopathic	(about) 800
Eclectic	(about) 400
Osteopathic	(about) 1,012
Prior to 1907.....	800
Since 1907.....	212
Drugless Healers	(about) 130
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(About) 7,000	

It is stated in Article I, Section 2 of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Medical Society of

the State of California that "The purpose of this Society shall be to federate and bring into one compact organization the entire medical profession of the State of California . . ." etc.

The membership of the Society is, at the present writing, about 2,700. There are somewhat more than 4,600 (excluding the few who would be denied admission) physicians eligible to membership in the Society. For some reason or other, your Society has failed to the extent of just 42% in its object, viz: "to bring into one compact organization the entire medical profession of the State of California."

What does membership in this Society mean?

What does it do for each one of you that would be of advantage to those who have not joined its ranks?

Is it worth while?

The State Society representing as it does, the only organized body of "regular" practitioners, is the spokesman of medical thought and opinion before the Legislature. The importance of this fact cannot be overestimated at this particular time, when the law-making body is considering bills which, if passed, will allow the drugless healers to have their own board of examiners; will make difficult experimental research; and will deny to school boards the right to examine pupils, thus allowing epidemic diseases to make headway and get beyond control.

The membership in the Society carries with it insurance against suits for malpractice. This feature will be reviewed at length in a later issue. It needs but to be mentioned here. Its importance is recognized by all of us. It might be added that the cost of this mutual insurance is lower than could be furnished by a commercial carrier operating for profit.

For a sum in addition to the regular dues, about half that charged by the commercial insurance carriers, a fund is maintained for the payment of indemnity in case of a judgment rendered against a participant in this fund. Membership in the Society carries with it the right to become a member of this fund.

These features, organization, representation, insurance, indemnity, to which add the subscription to the Journal, and the scientific activities of the Society, represent what membership in the Society does for each and every one of you.

There is no reason on earth why there should be 1,900 physicians in this State unaffiliated with the Society.

The American Medical Association has begun a campaign to obtain a greater membership in the county societies. You must do your part. Tell those who ought to become members what your Society does for you and that it will do just as much for him.